

**United Way of Anchorage  
Board Meeting  
May 19, 2021, 4-5:30 p.m.  
Via Teams**

**Members Present (15):** Walt Bass, Laurie Butcher, Greg Deal, Mike Dunn, Bill Falsey, Charles Fedullo, Mike Huston, Dick Mandsager, Jordan Marshall, Rachel Norman, Susan Parkes, Natasha Pope, Veronica Reem, Beth Stuart, David Wight

**RSVP Regrets (4):** Belinda Breaux, Alex McKay, Daniel Mitchell, Ed Ulman

**Call to Order:** Natasha Pope called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Bill Falsey moved to accept the consent agenda (April meeting minutes and April financials) as presented, Susan Parkes seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**Executive Committee Report:**

Natasha Pope reported that the 990 filing was completed by Altman Rogers and Co.; UWA provided a reconciliation to the audited FY20 financial statement. It was reviewed by the Executive and Finance committees and submitted on May 15; copy available upon request. The Executive Committee endorsed the initial draft budget for the next fiscal year, and the Finance Committee moved to extend spending authority over two months; draft will be reworked with the new CFO over the hiatus and a final draft will be presented at the August meeting.

Quick list of other open discussion areas that the Executive Committee is working on with UWA management includes: initial strategic planning brainstorming, IDEA, long term space planning, and Board development. Kudos to:

- Rachel Norman – Rachel and Alaska USA continue to support UWA as members of their team. It is not only space but also allowing UWA team members to participate in their Alaska USA vaccine clinic.
- Belinda Breaux – Belinda has agreed to bring her experience and time to support the next UWA strategic plan.

**Finance Committee Report:**

Laurie Butcher reported that the Finance Committee has been involved in budget and spending authority conversation. Personnel update – Angie Pinsonneault is officially gone, and the new CFO Aminata Taylor will be joining at the next meeting. In the interim, a special thank you to Cyndi Tisher for keeping everything rolling.

Financials are still very strong, and UWA metrics are good. Both in the dashboard and the final page, the budget has been updated so the Board is getting budget year to date. 2022 budget is previewed; it is very much a preliminary budget, given the change in finance personnel. The Finance Committee will be working with Aminata over the summer. Some of the things have

been incorporated in the budget already; the budget is anticipating \$45M in COVID money coming in. The 5% admin fee is over and above the funds that have already been calculated. Salaried have evolved with the hiring of staff. Partner investments are based on the expected campaign revenue; it is showing the COVID related expenses that are tied to expenses.

The Board needs to approve two months of spending – a two-months view is presented: anticipated about \$800,000 in revenue offset by \$700,000 in expenses. Beth Stuart moved to approve the spending authority in July and August (consider including in the motion that if there are additional COVID dollars, then UWA has authority to spend those as well); Susan Parkes seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **President's Report:**

Clark Halvorson provided an overview of the 2021 UWW membership certification form. There are new components in it around diversity. There are a few bars that UWA hasn't met but is working on it. There are new expectations that UWA is planning to incorporate in its strategic planning.

UWA continues to see more COVID funding come in. UWA has also been working with Murkowski's office over the last month and a half about modernizing Alaska 211, and submitted a proposal for \$2.4M focused on serving underserved communities. The current ways for homelessness include discussion on housing in Anchorage, the opportunities and challenges, and where UWA can provide most support.

### **Housing and Homelessness Update:**

June Sobocinski shared that it is important to put housing and homelessness into the context of UWA's impact work. The Board has talked about the building blocks of a good life – education, impact, health. That mission work for UWA has included assessing systems. In that respect, UWA has been doing some research and development, convening partners, and occasionally piloting some innovative projects. It is important to understand the complete interconnectedness of all these bodies of work. Each one of these areas is the determinant of the others. When we think about housing and homelessness in that context – when all of those things fall apart, that's when people fall into homelessness.

Nancy Burke reported that UWA is poised to assist the community in a new way; opportunities and challenges include:

- Community emerging from a series of crises and challenges
- Quick response during COVID-19 by UWA brought new experiences and perspective
- New leadership, new team with complementary expertise
- Realigning UWA priorities and processes

2021 Anchorage milestones include:

- Extended election and run-off
- Transition planning is incomplete – high homelessness numbers and public facilities in use
- Gearing up for administration change in July

Prevention is broad, and includes housing vouchers and service assistance, food access, business support, legal services, etc. Diversion includes resources to keep someone housed who is at

immediate risk of homelessness or on first visit to emergency shelter. Infrastructure is key to success here – data monitoring, system analysis, and focus on what is important. Interventions include eviction prevention, homelessness prevention and diversion, and rehousing. Why focus on prevention, diversion, and housing: personal outcomes, cost efficiency, and safer cities for everyone. This will focus a bit more on the adult homelessness. That’s not to say that families, youth, and veteran services are not important, it’s just to highlight some of the resources needed in the adult system.

Moving forward, the Board will consider the following points for strategic planning purposes:

- UWA is stronger now – COVID-19 response helped evoke new strategies, new skills
- UWA’s sweet spot is high level data monitoring, coordination, and facilitation
- Support UWA partners at Municipality and non-profits with renewed team
- Prevention and diversion – building on the existing programs and skills – 211, landlords support during rental assistance project, restaurant and hunger program
- Knowledge coming out of Home for Good to feed other housing programs
- Research and development – assisting in areas where there are not structures in place and helping to establish new areas – programs, system change, and use of new dollars coming to community

Motion to adjourn the Board meeting was made by Laurie Butcher, Charles Fedullo seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Next Board meeting: August 18, 2021